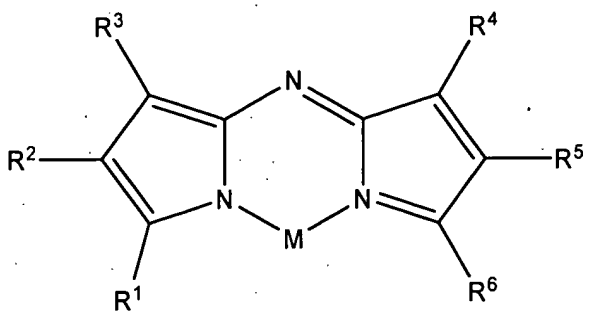
In the claims, please amend claims 27 and 31; cancel claims 28-30 and 32-36; and add claims 37-69 as set forth below in the listing of claims. The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-26 (Previously cancelled)

27 (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier, a compound of the formula



or a salt, metal complex or hydrate or other solvate thereof, wherein:

~~M is a chelating agent~~ M is BX_2, wherein each X is independently a halide;

each R^1, ~~R^2~~, R^3, R^4, ~~R^5~~ and R^6 ~~are~~ is independently selected from the group consisting of: H; a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, cyclic, moiety; a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, heterocyclic moiety; or a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, straight or branched chain alkyl or acyl moiety; and

~~R^2 and R^5 may, in addition, be independently a heavy atom or a water-solubilizing group~~

each R^2 and R^5 is independently selected from a heavy atom or an alkyl, cyclic, or heterocyclic moiety each substituted with at least one heavy atom.

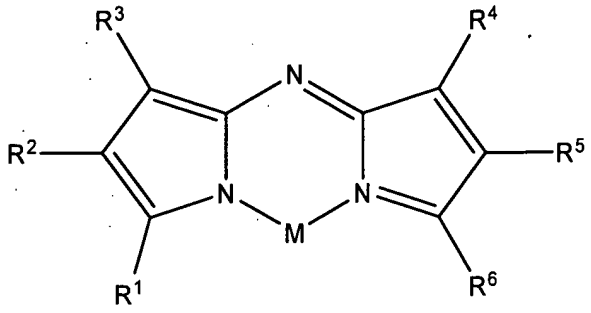
28 (Cancelled)

29 (Cancelled)

30 (Cancelled)

31 (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) A method of treating a photosensitive target biological cell *in vivo* or *in vitro*, the method comprising the steps of

(a) contacting the target biological cell with an effective amount of a compound of the formula



or a salt, metal complex or hydrate or other solvate thereof, wherein:

~~M is a chelating agent~~ M is BX_2, wherein each X is independently a halide;

each R^1, ~~R^2~~, R^3, R^4, ~~R^5~~ and R^6 ~~are~~ is independently selected from the group consisting of: H; a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, cyclic, moiety; a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, heterocyclic moiety; or a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, straight or branched chain alkyl or acyl moiety; and

~~R^2 and R^5 may, in addition, be independently a heavy atom or a water-solubilizing group~~ each R^2 and R^5 is independently selected from a heavy atom or an alkyl, cyclic, or heterocyclic moiety each substituted with at least one heavy atom, and

~~then subjecting the photosensitive target biological cell with light absorbed by the said photosensitive cell~~

(b) subjecting the photosensitive target biological cell with light absorbed by the cell.

32 (Cancelled)

33 (Cancelled)

34 (Cancelled)

35 (Cancelled)

36 (Cancelled)

37. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 27, wherein R^2 and R^5 are each independently selected from At, I, Br, and Cl.

38. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 27, wherein R^1 and R^6 are each independently substituted or unsubstituted, unsaturated, monocyclic or polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon moiety.

39. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 38, wherein R^1 and R^6 are each independently substituted or unsubstituted phenyl.

40. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 39, wherein R^1 and R^6 are each independently phenyl substituted with an electron-donating substituent.

41. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 40, wherein the electron-donating substituent is an alkoxy or a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, straight or branched chain alkyl moiety.

42. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 41, wherein the electron-donating substituent is an alkoxy.

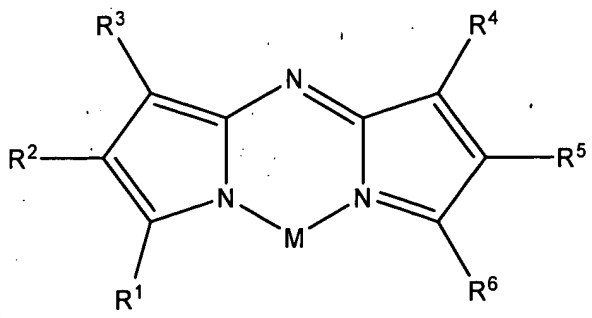
43. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 27, wherein R^3 and R^4 are each independently substituted or unsubstituted phenyl.

44. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 43, wherein R^3 and R^4 are each independently phenyl substituted with one or more heavy atoms.

45. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 44, wherein each heavy atom is At, I, Br, or Cl.

46. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 43, wherein R^3 and R^4 are each independently phenyl substituted with a carboxylic acid, sulfonic acid, phenol, alcohol, amine, amide, tetrazole, sulphonamide, or ester.

47. (New) A compound of the formula:



or a salt, metal complex or hydrate or other solvate thereof, wherein:

M is BX_2, wherein each X is independently a halide;

each R^1, R^3, R^4, and R^6 is independently selected from the group consisting of H, substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, cyclic, moiety; substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, heterocyclic moiety; and substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, straight or branched chain alkyl or acyl moiety; and

each R^2 and R^5 is independently selected from a heavy atom or an alkyl, cyclic, or heterocyclic moiety each substituted with at least one heavy atom.

48. (New) The compound of claim 47, wherein R^2 and R^5 are each independently selected from At, I, Br, and Cl.

49. (New) The compound of claim 47, wherein R^1 and R^6 are each independently substituted or unsubstituted, unsaturated, monocyclic or polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon moiety.

50. (New) The compound of claim 49, wherein R^1 and R^6 are each independently substituted or unsubstituted phenyl.

51. (New) The compound of claim 50, wherein R^1 and R^6 are each independently phenyl substituted with an electron-donating substituent.

52. (New) The compound of claim 51, wherein the electron-donating substituent is an alkoxy or a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, straight or branched chain alkyl moiety.

53. (New) The compound of claim 52, wherein the electron-donating substituent is an alkoxy.

54. (New) The compound of claim 47, wherein R^3 and R^4 are each independently substituted or unsubstituted phenyl.

55. (New) The compound of claim 54, wherein R^3 and R^4 are each independently phenyl substituted with one or more heavy atoms.

56. (New) The compound of claim 55, wherein each heavy atom is At, I, Br, or Cl.

57. (New) The compound of claim 54, wherein R^3 and R^4 are each independently phenyl substituted with a carboxylic acid, sulfonic acid, phenol, alcohol, amine, amide, tetrazole, sulphonamide, or ester.

58. (Withdrawn - New) The method of claim 31, wherein the photosensitive target biological cell is subjected to light having a wavelength of greater than 570 nm.

59. (Withdrawn - New) The method of claim 31, wherein the step of contacting the photosensitive target biological cell includes administering the compound systemically or topically to a human or animal.

60. (Withdrawn - New) The method of claim 31, wherein R^2 and R^5 are each independently selected from At, I, Br, and Cl.

61. (Withdrawn - New) The method of claim 31, wherein R^1 and R^6 are each independently substituted or unsubstituted, unsaturated, monocyclic or polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon moiety.

62. (Withdrawn - New) The method of claim 61, wherein R^1 and R^6 are each independently substituted or unsubstituted phenyl.

63. (Withdrawn - New) The method of claim 61, wherein R^1 and R^6 are each independently phenyl substituted with an electron-donating substituent.

64. (Withdrawn - New) The method of claim 63, wherein the electron-donating substituent is an alkoxy or a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, straight or branched chain alkyl moiety.

65. (Withdrawn - New) The method of claim 64, wherein the electron-donating substituent is an alkoxy.

66. (Withdrawn - New) The method of claim 31, wherein R^3 and R^4 are each independently substituted or unsubstituted phenyl.

67. (Withdrawn - New) The method of claim 66, wherein R^3 and R^4 are each independently phenyl substituted with one or more heavy atoms.

68. (Withdrawn - New) The method of claim 67, wherein each heavy atom is At, I, Br, or Cl.

69. (Withdrawn - New) The method of claim 66, wherein R^3 and R^4 are each independently phenyl substituted with a carboxylic acid, sulfonic acid, phenol, alcohol, amine, amide, tetrazole, sulphonamide, or ester.